

Road—Vaduthala to Cheruvalli Ferry.

479. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state with reference to question No. 108 of the budget session of 1105 and question No. 310 dated 18th February last, what further action has been taken by the Government since last February for opening the road from Vaduthala to Cheruvalli ferry and improving Vaduthala road?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Some interested people of the locality and the Talappali Road Board Member have suggested alteration in the alignment originally fixed for the road extension to the Cheruvalli ferry. Merits of the same are being gone into by the P. W. Department. The matter of improving the Vaduthala road is also engaging the attention of the Panchayat Department.

Caption in Gomathi—Against buses.

480. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to mention.—

(a) whether the Government have read the note published in the "Gomathi", dated 30th November 1931 under the Caption "Against the Buses";

(b) whether the Government have made any enquiries; and if so,

(c) what is the nature of the enquiries made;

(d) whether the statements contained in the note are true; and if so,

(e) what steps have been taken by the Government in the matter?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b), (c), (d) and (e) The occurrence being a non-cognisable one, no action could be taken by the Police. It is for the aggrieved parties to prefer a complaint before the Magistrate and get redress.

Demise of a person in custody—Ernakulam Police Station.

481. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the table all the papers and a detailed account of the incidents connected with the recent demise of a man in custody in the Ernakulam Police Station?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—The matter is under enquiry. The papers cannot therefore be placed on the table.

Death of prisoner Chengalam Mahammad.

482. Dr. A. R. Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) what was the cause of death of the prisoner Chengalam Mahammad who was arrested by the Trippunittura Police recently;

(2) is it not Mr. Koreth, Assistant Surgeon, General Hospital, who conducted the post-mortem examination;

(3) who authorised him to conduct the examination;

(4) was not the Civil Surgeon Mr. Tharian Verghese present on that day;

(5) why Dr. Tharian Verghese himself did not conduct the post-mortem in such a sensational death like the one instead of entrusting it to an Assistant Surgeon of very little experience;

(6) did the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer peruse the results of the post-mortem examination; if so, does his conclusion agree with the conclusion arrived at by the Assistant Surgeon who conducted the post-mortem;

(7) when was the post-mortem examination concluded by the Assistant Surgeon—the time and date;

(8) when was it that the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer went to verify it—the time and date;

(9) when was the post-mortem certificate issued to the Magistrate—the time and date;

(10) is there any departmental rule or practice to the effect that the certificate should be issued on the very same day the examination is conducted?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(1) Most probably from heart failure due to disease of the coronary arteries.

(2) Yes.

(3) The Civil Surgeon, General Hospital.

(4) Yes.

(5) The Civil Surgeon did not know that this was a case sensational enough to necessitate his conducting the post-mortem himself.

(6) Yes. The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer came to know of the sensational nature of the case the previous night and the next morning he saw the body along with the Civil Surgeon. The Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer agrees with the findings of the Assistant Surgeon.

(7) At about 6-30 p. m. on 4th Dhanu 1107.

(8) At about 8 a. m. on 5th Dhanu 1107.

(9) At about 9-30 a. m. on 5th Dhanu 1107.

(10) There is an order to the effect that the certificates should be given within 24 hours.